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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Patent No. 7,117,643 :
Lee Brown :
Issue Date: October 10, 2006 :
Application No. 10/724,667 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: December 1, 2003 :
Atty Docket No. 1614 :

This is a decision on the PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(c)) filed October 20, 2010 to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

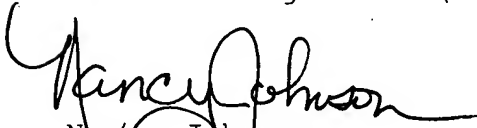
The petition is **GRANTED**.

The patent issued October 10, 2006. The grace period for paying the 3-½ year maintenance fee provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e) expired at midnight on October 10, 2010, with no payment received.

The petition was timely filed within twenty-four months after the expiration of the six-month grace period. Further, as required, petitioner submitted with the petition the required maintenance fee, the surcharge for accepting an unintentionally delayed maintenance fee after expiration, and a statement that the delay in payment of the maintenance fee was unintentional. These fees were accepted at the reduced small entity rate, as the fees were accompanied by petitioner's assertion of having made a determination of continued entitlement to pay small entity fees, pursuant to new 37 CFR 1.27(g)(1), effective September 8, 2000.

Accordingly, the maintenance fee in this case is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is hereby reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries related to this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3219.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Nancy Johnson
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions.